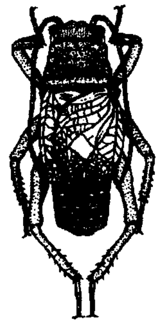
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A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *EPANERCHODUS* (DIPLOPODA, POLYDESMIDAE) FROM KURIL ISLANDS

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Epanerchodus cuspidatus sp.n. is described from the Kunashir Island (South Kuriles). It differs from congeners mainly by the shape of gonopod telopodite with long and short pointed branches and by a very small postfemoral process of the gonopods.

KEY WORDS: Diplopoda, *Epanerchodus*, new species, Kuril Islands.

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Описан *Epanerchodus cuspidatus* sp.n. с острова Кунашир (южная часть Курильских островов). От известных видов рода новый вид отличается формой телоподита гоноподий (разделенного на длинную и короткую остроконечные ветви) и очень маленьким постфеморальным отростком гоноподий.

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INTRODUCTION

The highly prolific East Asian genus *Epanerchodus* Attems, 1901, includes more than 50 species distributed mainly in China, Japan, Korea, and Russian Far East (Golovatch, 1991). Only one *Epanerchodus* species have been recorded in Kunashir Island (South Kuriles) (Mikhaljova, 1988), two congeners reported solely from the Primorskii krai (Golovatch & Mikhaljova, 1979; Mikhaljova & Golovatch, 1981).

The description of *Epanerchodus cuspidatus* sp. n. from the Kunashir Island is given in present paper. Type material is deposited in the Zoological Museum of the Moscow State University.

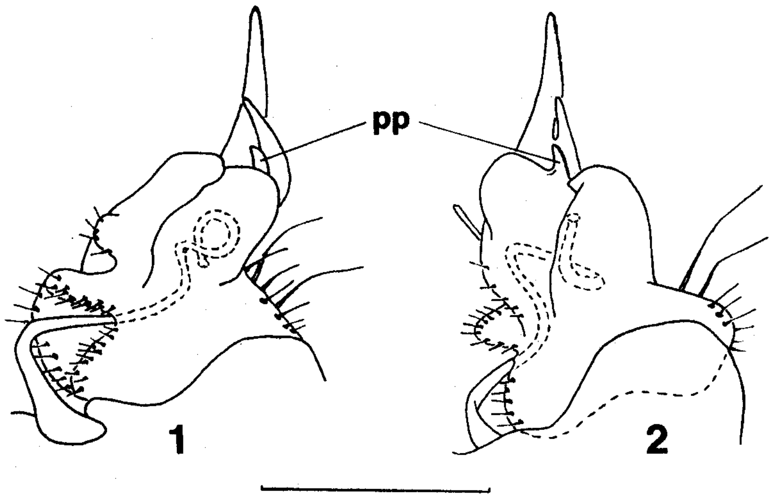
Epanerchodus cuspidatus **Mikhaljova, sp. n.**
Figs 1-2.

Epanerchodus kunashiricus : Golovach in: Mikhaljova & Basarukin, 1995: 96 (misidentification).

TYPE MATERIAL. Holotype: 1 male, Russia: Kuriles, Kunashir Island, environs of Yuzhno-Kurilsk (44°00'47" N, 145°40'98" E), 2.VIII 1995 (Yu. Marusik). Paratypes: 1 female, 4 juv., Kunashir Island, environs of Yuzhno-Kurilsk (44°01'31" N, 145°48'77" E), 2.IX 1995 (Yu. Marusik).

DIAGNOSIS. The shape of the gonopod telopodite with long and short pointed branches and a very small postfemoral process of the gonopods separates new species from others.

DESCRIPTION. Male. Holotype ca. 15 mm long, 2.0 mm wide. Color in alcohol pinkish-beige, legs light. Head large, subglobular, and densely covered with minute hairs. Genae rectangular in dorsal view. Antennae brown, long, clavate. Length ratios of antennomeres 2-7 as 1.5 : 2.7 : 2.2 : 2.1 : 1.9 : 1, width ratios as 0.9 : 1.1 : 1.1 : 1.2 : 1.4 : 1, respectively, 7th with some sensory bacilli. Collum elliptical, somewhat narrower than head; posterior corners slightly angular; a row of setae along anterior margin, further two rows on the surface. Segments 3 and 4 somewhat shorter and narrower than others. Succeeding segments gradually increasing in width toward segment 10, parallel-sided between 10-17, and gradually tapering telson. Metatergal polygonal sculpture as three transverse rows of bosses. Second and third rows being developed stronger than first one. Tergal setae short, apically blunt. Paraterga well-developed, their outer margin moderataly convex, with 3 minute notches. Caudolateral corners of paraterga beak-shaped pointed on segments 5-18. Epiproct medium-sized, conical, rounded at tip, with setae.



Figs 1-2. *Epanerchodus cuspidatus* sp. n., male gonopods, holotype: 1) lateral view; 2) ventral view; pp - postfemoral process. Scale line = 0.5 mm.

Legs moderately long and slender, ventrally more densely setose; tibia and tarsus with small scherical setae on ventral surface. Legs 1 and 2 somewhat reduced in size.

Gonopods (Figs 1, 2) in situ holding parallel to main axis, with a usual heavily setose prefemoral portion. Clivus broad with flattened margin. Seminal canal making a characteristic loop and ending up at bottom of sufficiently narrow femoral cavity. Femoral outer horn [= endomerite in the sense of Golovatch (1991)] bacilliform. Postfemoral process (pp) very small. Tibiotarsus with long somewhat curved branch and an additional shorter branch. Both branches apically pointed.

Female. Length 15.5 mm, width 2.0 mm. Other nonsexual characters as in male.

REMARKS. New species has already been reported from Kunashir Island as *E. kunashiricus* Mikh. (Golovach in: Mikhaljova & Basarukin, 1995) with incorrect locality: Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk instead of Yuzhno-Kurilsk.

ETYMOLOGY. Specific name originated from Latin *cuspidatus* with reference to the pointed apex of the gonopod telopodite branches.

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